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ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCES 32 PARKS PROJECTS TO RECEIVE FUNDING THROUGH PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) Secretary Robert W. Gollledge, Jr., on behalf of the Romney-Healey Administration, is pleased to announce the approval of \$897,500 in matching funds for 32 parks projects supporting new models of stewardship, to be provided by EOEA's Office of Public Private Partnerships (OPPP). The OPPP Matching Funds Program allocates capital dollars to match private donations for capital improvements to the Commonwealth's parks, open spaces and facilities under the jurisdiction of EOEA and its agencies.

Secretary Gollledge, who oversees the Office of Public Private Partnerships, said "As we continue to strive towards our goal of world class parks, we must dedicate the available resources of the state environmental agencies and pair those resources with commitments from our private partners. With state and non-state partners we can restore and protect our open space." The 32 FY07 OPPP project costs range from \$1,000 to \$700,000 dollars. In the three years since OPPP was established, the Office has successfully raised, matched and re-invested over \$6.6 million into the Commonwealth's park system.

In total the Commonwealth's parks and open space encompasses over 10% of the total acreage of Massachusetts and includes more than 2,000 miles of trails, 600,000 acres of land, 28 watersheds, 3 rivers, 270 bridges and 1,450 miles of historic roads and parkways. The state's parks and reservation inventory also includes: 12 piers, 1,400 buildings, 42 fresh water beaches, 25 coastal beaches, 60 playgrounds, 30 campgrounds, 2 ski areas, 3 music shells along with numerous skating rinks and swimming pools.

FY07 OPPP projects within the state's parks system includes providing water transportation to the Harbor Islands, restoring stretches of the Charles River pathways on the southern shore, restoring Evan's Field in South Boston, installing a crosswalk with traffic signals at the intersection of Gerry's Landing Road and Greenough Boulevard in Cambridge, continuing work on the Schooner Ernestina in New Bedford, repairing water

gates along the Blackstone River and Canal in Uxbridge, constructing a bridge over the trail link in the Georgetown-Rowley State Forest, restoring the Nature Center at Maudsley State Park and removal of hazardous fencing and trees along with replacing the stonewall along Chestnut Hill Avenue along with several other projects.

Stephen H. Burrington, Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner (DCR) said “Collaboration with friends groups and other partners is integral to DCR’s approach to managing and improving the parks. These projects are a wonderful expression of the joint commitment to collaboration of DCR and its partners.”

The following chart lists the projects and partners for each of the 32 projects being funding in FY07.

PROJECT LOCATION	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	OPPP FUNDING	PARTNER CONTRIBUTION	PARTNER
DUPR, Alewife Reservation, Cambridge	Phase II includes drainage enhancements, wetlands restoration, a canoe launch site and native plantings	\$30,000	\$30,000	Surveying and Mapping Consultants
DUPR, Beaver Brook Reservation North, Waltham	Repair damage to MetFern Cemetery	\$5,000	\$5,000	Pulte Homes
DSPR, Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park, Uxbridge	Repair three sets of water control gates	\$164,000	\$238,000	Blackstone River Valley National Heritage Corridor Commission
DSPR, Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park, Uxbridge	Maple sugaring equipment	\$1,440	\$1,440	William & Valerie Paul
DSPR, Borderland SP, North Easton	Restoration plantings at Ames Mansion	\$2,500	\$2,500	Friends of Borderland
DUPR, Boston Harbor Islands	Water transportation	\$150,000	\$150,000	Island Alliance
DUPR, Botume House in Middlesex Fells Reservation, Stoneham	Design exhibits for Botume House visitors center	\$15,000	\$15,000	Monkey Dance Productions, Inc.
DUPR, Brook Farm, West Roxbury	Exterior stabilization of print shop	\$75,000	\$75,000	City of Boston Landmarks Commission
DUPR, Charles River Pathways, Boston	Restore stretches of the Charles River pathways on the southern shore	\$21,772	\$21,772	Charles River Conservancy
DUPR, Chestnut Hill Reservation, Chestnut Hill	Implement early action recommendations of RMP projects (Fence removal; Hazard tree management; Stone wall repair along Chestnut Hill Ave)	\$150,000	\$567,500	Waterworks LLC

DUPR, Connell Memorial Rink, Weymouth	Jet Icing of the rink	\$1,000	\$1,000	Weymouth Youth Hockey
DUPR, Devine Memorial Rink, Neponset section of Dorchester	Jet Icing of the rink	\$850	\$850	Dorchester Youth Hockey
DUPR, Edward Everett Square/Richardson Park, Dorchester	Replacing historic flagpole damaged by lightening	\$4,758	\$75,000	Individual Donor
DUPR, Esplanade/Community Boating Facility, Boston	Purchase and adapt sailing equipment to provide universal access sailing program at Community Boating	\$22,000	\$22,000	DCR Universal Access Program
DUPR, Evans Field, South Boston	Restore Evans Field, a little league baseball field.	\$50,000	\$50,000	Friends of Evans Field - \$10K DCR Urban Trust Fund - \$40K - Total Project \$100,000
DSPR, Georgetown-Rowley State Forest, Rowley	Construct bridge to reestablish trail link destroyed by beaver dam.	\$35,000	\$35,000	Bay Circuit Alliance, Inc.
DUPR, Greenough Blvd, Cambridge	Install a crosswalk with traffic signals at the intersection of Gerry's Landing Road and Greenough Blvd	\$75,000	\$75,000	Buckingham Browne & Nichols School
DUPR, HarborWalk sites in East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester	Implement expanded signage on eight Boston HarborWalk segments along DCR beaches and parks	\$5,000	\$5,000	The Boston Harbor Association
DSPR, Harold Parker State Forest, North Andover	Restore tenting sites in the campground	\$10,000	\$10,000	Essex National Heritage Commission
DUPR, Jamaica Plain (Pond Street Phase I), Jamaica Plain	Restoration of historic stone wall at Pond Street	\$15,000	\$15,000	Arborway Coalition, Jamaica Pond Project & Jamaica Pond Association
DSPR, Lawrence Heritage State Park, Lawrence	Repair displays on permanent exhibit at visitors center	\$4,000	\$4,000	Friends of Lawrence Heritage State Park
DUPR, Longfellow Park South, Cambridge	Restock the gardens, renew the Hawthorn triangle with perennials	\$3,500	\$3,500	People for River Bend Park Trust

DSPR, Lowell-Dracut-Tyngsboro State Forest, Lowell, Dracut and Tyngsboro	Fabricate and erect approximately two dozen orientation marker signs in several areas	\$1,000	\$500	Friends of the Lowell-Dracut-Tyngsboro State Forest
DUPR, Lynn Beach & Nahant Beach Reservation, Lynn and Nahant	Design and produce interpretive signs for King's Beach & Long Beach	\$5,000	\$5,000	Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach
DSPR, Maudslay State Park, Newburyport	Spray Shed/Nature Center restoration Phase III	\$10,000	\$10,000	Maudslay State Park Association
DSPR, Mt Holyoke Range State Park, Amherst	Fabricate new displays at Notch visitors center: story of Mt Holyoke Range	\$5,000	\$5,000	Friends of the Mt. Holyoke Range
DUPR, Murphy Memorial Rink, South Boston	Jet Icing of the rink	\$850	\$850	South Boston Youth Hockey
DSPR, Schooner Ernestina, New Bedford	Continue work on the Schooner Ernestina	\$28,000	\$28,000	Hildreth Stewart Charitable Trust
DUPR, Stony Brook Reservation, Stoneham	Replace seating - gazebo - Kelley Field	\$3,130	\$3,130	Boston Cares
DSPR, Upton State Forest, Upton	Restore the entrance gateway area	\$700	\$300	Fields of Upton State Forest, Inc.
DUPR, Veteran's Memorial Rink, Somerville	Jet Icing of the rink	\$1,000	\$1,000	Somerville Youth Hockey Association
DSPR, Waquoit Bay Nat'l Estuarine Research Reserve, E. Falmouth	Repair steps to Washburn Island campsites	\$2,000	\$2,000	Citizens for Protection of Waquoit Bay
# PROJECTS: 32	TOTAL AMOUNT:	\$897,500	\$1,458,342	SUM TOTAL: \$2,355,842

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